



Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report



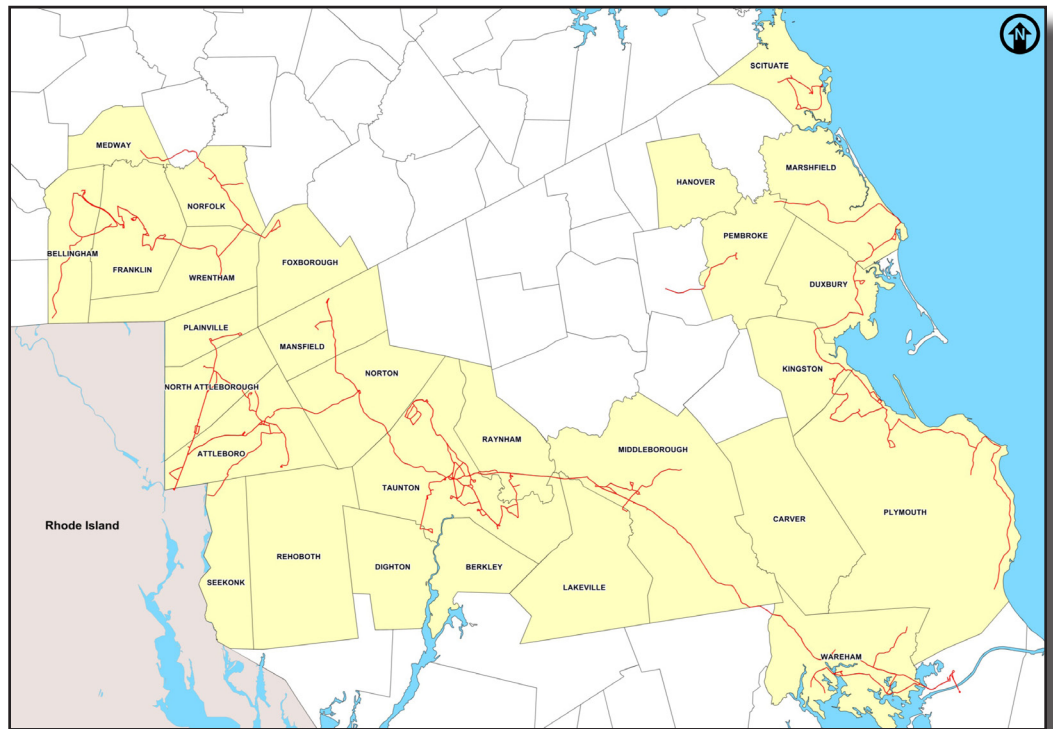
Greater Attleboro Taunton
Regional Transit Authority

10 Oak Street, Taunton, MA 02780
508-823-8828
www.gatra.org

Created in 1974 by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 161B, the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority provides comprehensive quality public transportation services to meet the mobility needs of people throughout 28 member communities in southeastern Massachusetts. GATRA transit services include fixed-route bus service, paratransit (Dial-A-Ride) service for people with disabilities and senior citizens, Medicaid and Human Service transportation as well as commuter rail connection services. Funding for GATRA comes from local, state and federal sources.

Attleboro
Bellingham
Berkley
Carver
Dighton
Duxbury
Foxborough
Franklin
Hanover
Kingston
Lakeville
Mansfield
Marshfield
Medway
Middleborough
Norfolk
North Attleboro
Norton
Pembroke
Plainville
Plymouth
Raynham
Rehoboth
Scituate
Seekonk
Taunton
Wareham
Wrentham

The GATRA Service Area and Participating Communities



Message from the Administrator

Fiscal Year 2015 was one for the record books. Not only did GATRA launch several new services in FY '15, but The Authority also survived one of the most punishing winters on record with only a few days of missed service, all while still managing to achieve an increase in total ridership for the sixth consecutive year.

In July 2014, GATRA launched the Tri-Town Connector in Foxborough, Norfolk, and Wrentham. The aptly-named Connector now connects riders with many key destinations, such as taking shoppers to Patriot Place in Foxborough, patients to the medical facility at Patriot Place, employees and visitors to MCI-Norfolk, and commuters from the Wrentham Commuter Lot to the Norfolk MBTA commuter rail station.

In addition to new services, GATRA also submitted designs for the new Plymouth Transportation Center in FY '15. Scheduled to be completed and operational by the start of the Nation's 2020 celebration in Plymouth, this new center will house parking, local and intercity buses as well as the visitor center at the facility. It will play a major role in local transportation and economic development for the town of Plymouth.

In FY 15, GATRA also was busy purchasing new vehicles for its transit fleet as well as planning a new fixed-route bus service in the town of Scituate, which is scheduled to launch in early July, 2015.

As always, GATRA continues to make strides in improving our service, working with each community to ensure riders have safe, affordable and reliable service throughout the region.

Francis J. Gay

Administrator,
Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority





ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Introducing... A NEW BUS SERVICE IN NORFOLK, WRENTHAM AND FOXBORO BEGINNING JULY 7, 2014

TRI-TOWN Connector
NORFOLK • WRENTHAM • FOXBORO

Serving...

- Franklin Big Y
- Wrentham Council on Aging
- Patriot Place
- Brigham & Women's/ Mass General Health Care
- Norfolk MBTA
- MCI - Norfolk
- Norfolk Council on Aging

Monday - Friday: 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Pick up the bus at any of the above locations or anywhere along the route (except on Rt. 1).

TRY US OUT! RIDE FREE in July!

The Tri-Town Connector is sponsored by GATRA and operated by Massing Transit. Schedules & Fares available at www.gatra.org. Call 800-698-7676 for more information.

Service Accomplishments:

- Tri-Town Connector launched in July 2014
- Introduced a new weekend shuttle service in Wareham Center connecting with the CapeFLYER passenger train from Boston
- Scituate SLOOP service planned with expected launch July 2015

Capital Accomplishments:

Five Year Capital Program

The Authority updated its 5 Year Capital Improvement Program for the period FY 2016-2020.

Taunton Terminal Renovations

The Authority made a commitment to improve life safety and air quality systems at the Taunton terminal in FY 2015. In addition to new HVAC and Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems, GATRA also started renovations to the vacant south end of the terminal building. The renovations will allow GATRA's numerous administrative departments to be logically and strategically positioned in a modernized office.

Purchase of New Buses

Four (4) new buses were delivered and placed into service during the fiscal year. These new buses are 30' and 35' in length and will be used in the Attleboro/Taunton fixed-route system.

Van Replacement

During the fiscal year, GATRA placed an order for 11 new vans to be delivered in June 2015. These new vans will replace aging Dial-A-Ride vehicles.

NEW FLYER

May 13, 2015

Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority
Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)
Awards New Flyer a Contract For Three 30-Foot MiD[®] Diesel Buses.

Built to RELY ON.

PLANNING

Planning Accomplishments:

State Wide Public Transit Process – During the fiscal year GATRA participated in meetings of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Transit Authorities (MARTA) which covered such issues as State Funding of Public Transportation.

Completion of the Regional Transit Plan - September 2015

- Comprehensive Assessment of Transit Services
- Examination of Ridership Trends for Each Line and Service
- Performance Analysis of Existing Services
- Development and Evaluation of Alternative Service Scenarios
- Development of a Recommendation to Better Align Service
- Commonwealth's Environmental Policies
- Fare Rates and Collection Methods
- Region's Job Creation and Employment Need
- Accommodations for Transit Needs of the Region's Work force

GATRA, along with nine other RTAs, worked together to obtain the services of URS Corporation to provide technical assistance and help in the preparation of the individual transit plans. The participating RTAs were: GATRA, MVRTA, LRTA, WRTA, VTA, NRTA, FRTA, MART, CATA and BRTA.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Throughout the year, GATRA participates in numerous community outreach events at area high schools and colleges, councils on aging, senior housing complexes, and YMCAs. Our goal is to build awareness and promote GATRA's fixed route and Dial-a-Ride services to the communities we serve. Here is a sampling of the outreach meetings and events that GATRA attended in FY '15:

- Wheaton College New Students' Fair, August 2014
- Franklin Senior Expo, Franklin Senior Center, September 2014
- Taunton Council on Aging Resources & Info Fair, Taunton COA, September 2014
- City of Attleboro 100th Anniversary Celebration, September 2014
- Hanover Senior Health Fair, Hanover YMCA, October 2014
- MassDOT Moving Together 2014 Transit Session, October 2014
- Healthy Plymouth Summit, November 2014
- Wrentham Senior Lunch at Patriot Place, November 2014
- Liberty Pines Housing, Wrentham, Mass., January 2015
- Southcoast Regional Network for Homelessness Conference, February 2015
- Taunton Area School to Career, Travel Training Sessions, February 2015
- NEPTA Conference, March 2015
- Mass in Motion - Transforming Taunton, March 2015
- Stand Up 4 Transportation, National Transportation Infrastructure Day, April 2015
- Norton High School, Transitional Program, Travel Training Sessions, May 2015
- Boys and Girls Club of Taunton, June 2015
- GATRA Consumer Advisory Committee (GCAC) Meetings in Attleboro/Taunton, Plymouth and Wareham - monthly
- Taunton Emergency Task Force Meeting - monthly
- South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation (SERCCOT) Meeting - monthly
- Plymouth Triad, Plymouth YMCA and Plymouth Project Forward Meetings
- Various Public Hearings on Transportation throughout the year

PARTNERSHIPS



Each year, GATRA receives funding from the United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton (UWGAT). One of the United Way sponsored programs that GATRA provides is MedWheels, which is a shared long distance transportation program for eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, and low income individuals living in the 11 towns covered by UWGAT.



GATRA in partnership with MassDOT and NuRide, offer riders' rewards for choosing healthier and "greener" transportation options through the NuRide program. NuRide was developed to encourage people to make greener trips and earn rewards for doing so. From riding the GATRA bus, to walking, carpooling, van pooling, and biking, this program rewards points that can be accumulated and then redeemed for retail discounts, restaurant coupons, and tickets to shows and attractions.



For the fifth year, GATRA partnered with the Taunton Area School to Career, Inc., to provide travel training instruction to high school students in the work-study program. Travel training instruction teaches students how to travel safely and independently using public transportation.



GATRA participates in the South East Regional Coordinating Council (SERCC), which provides an ongoing forum for open discussion where stakeholders can exchange information about transportation access issues, especially as they relate to low-income individuals, seniors, and people with disabilities. SERCC works toward increasing transportation opportunities for both our consumers and the communities we serve.



RIDERSHIP STATISTICS

2015

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Human Services Brokerage	Total Ridership
Annual Ridership	849,716	262,417	1,530,383	2,642,516

2014

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Human Services Brokerage	Total Ridership
Annual Ridership	855,505	257,376	1,361,260	2,474,141

2013

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Human Services Brokerage	Total Ridership
Annual Ridership	837,733	242,055	1,202,702	2,282,490

Fixed Route by Service Area

Unlinked Passenger Trips

Attleboro/Taunton	517,962
Plymouth Area Link (PAL)	126,766
Marshfield/Duxbury/Kingston (SAIL)	40,122
Onset Wareham Link (OWL)	96,978
Franklin Area Bus (FAB)	9,697
Tri-Town Connector	5,867
Norton/Mansfield Route 140	25,722
Bellingham Commuter Shuttle	4,233
Medway Commuter Shuttle	9,889
Middleborough Downtown Shuttle	9,889
Pembroke Commuter Shuttle	2,591
Total Fixed Route	849,716

Demand Response by Town

Unlinked Passenger Trips

United Dial-A-Ride (Foxboro, Franklin, Norfolk, Wrentham)	17,001
Attleboro/Taunton	110,518
Bellingham	6,307
Carver	6,753
Duxbury	8,694
Hanover	4,971
Kingston	7,340
Lakeville	2,448
Mansfield	9,729
Mansfield Connection Service	10,113
Marshfield	5,018
Medway	2,163
Middleborough	8,177
Pembroke	6,589
Plainville	2,646
Plymouth	28,218
Scituate	5,224
Wareham	17,957
Wrentham	2,550
Total Demand Response	262,417

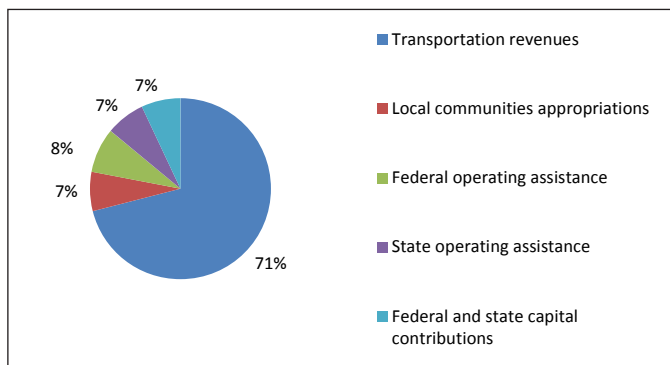




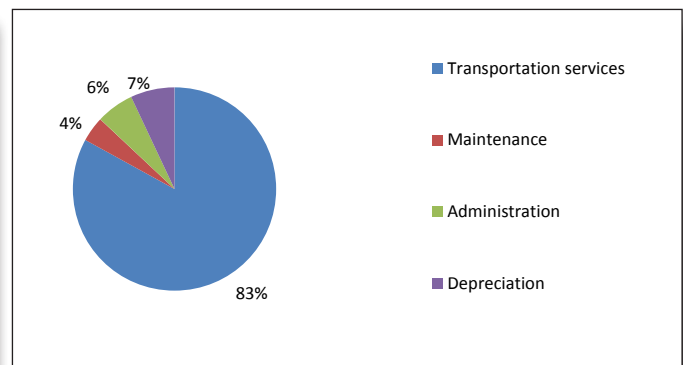
FINANCE

The revenues and expenses by source for GATRA operations for the period ending June 30, 2015 are delineated in the following graphs:

Revenues by Source:



Expenses by Source:



Financial Ratios

“Working Capital” is the amount by which current assets exceed current liabilities. The Current Ratio, which compares current assets to current liabilities, is an indicator of the ability to pay current obligations.

	2015	2014
Working Capital	\$ 6,281,282	\$ 8,063,000
Current Ratio	2:1	2:1

The working capital and current ratio indicate that the Authority has an excellent ability to meet current obligations.

“Liabilities to Net Position” indicates the extent of borrowing.

	2015	2014
Liabilities to Net Position	84%	86%

This decrease in “Liabilities to Net Postion” was caused primarily by an increase in the amount invested in capital assets included in the net position balance.

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS & RECOMMENDATIONS



Summary

GATRA, and its other RTA partners, which comprise the Massachusetts Association of Regional Transit Authorities (MARTA), continue to work closely with the legislature to ensure that public transportation services outside of the Boston area receive the recognition and necessary funding to be able to compete with and become a viable alternative for people to travel in their respective communities. As the MBTA financial debates continue, MARTA is poised to act on proposals which could affect future funding to the RTAs.

Comprehensive Planning

In September 2015, GATRA released the final draft of its Regional Transit Plan. The plan, prepared by URS Corporation, is not only a comprehensive assessment of GATRA's fixed route transit services, but also outlines detailed recommendations for new and existing services.

The Plan's recommendations have been categorized by route and phase. In Phase 1, the focus is to eliminate underperforming routes and improve efficiencies with existing routes through service adjustments. Phase 2 assumes an annual increase of \$1 million in operating funds, but also benefits from the unallocated savings achieved in Phase 1. Phase 3 assumes an unconstrained operating budget in which the cost of providing the full need of service will be offset through increased revenues from local, state, and federal funding partners.

Phase 1 recommendations mostly affect routes in the Taunton/Attleboro services areas.

Phase 2 consists of two entirely new routes: Route 2 serving MA-138 in Taunton and the Raynham Council on Aging; and a new Plainridge route originating at the Triboro Plaza in Attleboro and serving the new Plainridge Park Casino. It also includes the expansion of several existing services including Route 9 in Taunton serving Highland Street and Hannaford supermarket and a new T Shuttle in Medway serving West Medway's Route 109 to Holliston Street, Medway Middle School, Village Street to Route 115 South, and ending at the Norfolk MBTA station.

Phase 3 consists of expanded night service on most routes and the introduction of Sunday service on most routes. Also included was expanded hours in the Wareham and Plymouth areas during July and August to accommodate seasonal demands.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

COMMUNITY

Attleboro
Bellingham
Berkley
Carver
Dighton
Duxbury
Foxborough
Franklin
Hanover
Kingston
Lakeville
Mansfield
Marshfield
Medway
Middleboro
Norfolk
No. Attleboro
Norton
Pembroke
Plainville
Plymouth
Raynham
Rehoboth
Scituate
Seekonk
Taunton
Wareham
Wrentham

ELECTED OFFICIAL

Mayor Kevin Dumas
Mike Connor
George F. Miller
Michael J. O'Donnell, Jr.
Dean Cronin
Theodore J. Flynn
Lorraine A. Brue
Robert Vallee
Brian E. Barthelmes
Elaine A. Fiore
John Powderly
George R. Dentino
Matthew J. McDonough
Dennis Crowley
Stephen J. McKinnon
Scott Bugbee
Paul J. Belham, Sr.
Robert W. Kimball
Arthur P. Boyle
Robert Rose
Kenneth A. Tavares
Joseph R. Pacheco
Michael R. Costello
Anthony V. Vegnani
David S. Parker
Mayor Thomas C. Hoye
Patrick G. Tropeano
Charles Kennedy

DESIGNEE

Mayor Kevin Dumas
Laura DeMattia, COA Director
Gil Pontes, Selectman
Carole Julius, COA Director
Alice Souza, COA Director
Joanne Moore, COA Director
Vicki Lowe, COA Director

Anthony Marino/ Robyn Mitton COA
Tammy Murray, COA Director
James Gouveia
Gale Farrugia, COA Director
Greg Guimond, Town Planner
Missy Dziczek, COA Director
Andrea Priest, COA Director
Scott Bragdon, Human Services Director
Mark Fisher, Town Administrator
Richard Leitch
Hilary Wilson, Liason
Leland Ross, COA Board Member

Elizabeth Moura, COA Director
Bradley Marshall, Outreach Worker, SHINE
Linda Hayes, COA Director
Bernie Huck, COA Director
Mayor Thomas C. Hoye
Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator
Janet Angelico, COA Director

Disabled Rider Community Representative
Rider Community Representative

Thomas E. Thevenin, CPA, PC
Shayne M. Trimbell, SRPEDD